Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Mr. Richards exhibited a piece of plumbago from the Southampton mine, Bucks county. The specimen was 12¾ inches long, by ¾ and ⅝ inch thick, and was sawed from a much larger piece, remarkable for its purity. Mr. R. stated that the plumbago of this mine had been found better for the purposes of making crucibles, &c. than the imported article, on account of its greater purity, but that, unfortunately, it was more expensive owing to the depth of the mine and the difficulty of working it. Mr. R. gave a brief history of the mine.

A discussion in regard to the geology of the district arose, in which Dr. Coates, Mr. Trego, and Prof. Frazer took part.

Mr. Justice made some remarks upon a recent statement as to the beneficial effects of wire gauze in case of near-sightedness, which led to a discussion, in which Dr. Coates, Dr. Hays, and Prof. Cresson took part.

The Treasurer of the Society and the Committee on Publication made their annual Reports, which were referred as usual.

Pending nominations were read.

There being no sufficient quorum present, the alterations of the laws could not be considered.

Stated Meeting, December 20.

Present, twenty-six members.

Dr. Patterson, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Baron Von Hammer Purgstall, dated Vienna, 30th April, 1850; and from Benjamin Ferris, dated Wilmington, State of Delaware, respectively announcing donations to the Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

The following works by the Baron Von Hammer Purgstall, of Vienna:—

Abhandlung über die Siegel der Araber, Perser und Türken.

Bericht über die in letzten vier Jahren, 1845, 6, 7, 8, zu Constantinopel gedruckten und lithographirten Werke. In three Parts.

Bericht über Hrn. Reinauds französiche Uebersetzung von Abulfedas Geographie.

Ueber die Menschenclasse welchen von den Arabern "Schoubije" genannt wird.

Von der Inschriftverbrämung der Kleider als Souverainitätsrecht der Frauen in Morgenländ.

Bericht über Herrn Charrières Negociation de la France dans le Levant.

Rede des Präsidenten der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Freiherrn Von Hammer Purgstall, bei der feierlichen Eröffnung derselben am 2 Februar, 1848.—*From the Author.*

Jahrbücher der Literatur für 1848. Vols. 121, 122, 123, 124. Vienna. 8vo.—*From the Baron Von Hammer Purgstall.*

A History of the Original Settlements on the Delaware, from its discovery by Hudson to the Colonization under William Penn. To which is added, an Account of the Ecclesiastical Affairs of the Swedish Settlers, and a History of Wilmington, from its first settlement to the present time. By Benjamin Ferris. Wilmington, 1846. 8vo.

Sundry Pamphlets relating to the Seneca Indians in the State of New York, entitled, as follows:—

The Case of the Seneca Indians illustrated by facts. Philadelphia, 1840. 8vo.

A Further Illustration of the Case of the Seneca Indians, &c. Philadelphia, 1841.

Proceedings of an Indian Council held at Buffalo creek, &c. Baltimore, 1842.

Declaration of the Seneca Nation of Indians in General Council, &c. Baltimore, 1845.

Report of the Proceedings at an Indian Council at Cataraugus, N. Y. Baltimore, 1846.

Proceedings of the Joint Committee appointed by the Society of Friends, for Promoting the Civilization and Improving the Condition of the Seneca Nation of Indians. Baltimore, 1847.

Further Proceedings of the Joint Committee for Promoting the Civilization and Improving the Condition of the Seneca Nation of Indians, from the year 1847 to 1850. Baltimore, 1850.—*From Benjamin Ferris.*

Report on the Expediency of Celebrating in future the Landing of

the Pilgrims on the twenty-first day of December, instead of the twenty-second day of that month. By a Committee of the Pilgrim Society. Boston, 1850. 8vo.—*From N. B. Shurtleff, M.D.*

The African Repository. Vol. XXVI. No. 12. December, 1850. Washington. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute. Third Series. Vol. XX. No. 6. December, 1850. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Institute.*

Descriptions of some American Annelida Abranchia. By Joseph Leidy, M.D. (Journal Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia), 1850. 4to.—*From the Author.*

Contributions to Helminthology. By Joseph Leidy, M.D. (Proceedings Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia), 1850. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Dr. Franklin Bache announced the death of Sir James Wylie, of St. Petersburg, a member of this Society, on the 9th October last (old style), aged 55.

Mr. Wagner presented the minutes of the Committee on Finance, which embraced their former report.

They recommended the following appropriations for the ensuing year, which were agreed to.

Proceedings, - - - - -	$100
Binding, - - - - - -	50
Journals, - - - - - -	100
General account, - - - -	700
Hall, - - - - - - -	50
	$1000

On motion of Dr. Dunglison, the Committee were authorized to invest the trust and other funds in loans of the State, City, or Districts, as they may think proper.

On motion of Judge Kane, the Society proceeded to the consideration of the alterations of the laws proposed at the meeting of 15th November, 1850; when the amendments proposed by the Board of Officers were agreed to.

These amendments were as follows:—

First. Amend Chapter I. Section 1st, so as to read as follows:—

"The election of new members shall be by ballot; and shall form

part of the stated business for the meetings on the first Friday of January, April, July and October, in each year."

Second. Amend Chapter I. Section 4th, so as to read:—

"Nor shall any elections be had at the meetings statedly appointed therefor, unless there be present thereat at least twenty members qualified to vote; and no person shall be deemed duly chosen at such meetings, unless three-fouths of the qualified members present shall have voted in his favour."

Third. Add a new section in Chapter I., to be Section 5th, as follows:—

"But in case the number of twenty qualified voters shall not be present at a meeting statedly appointed for elections, the election of a candidate may, by one or more of the members who nominated him, be publicly adjourned to the stated meeting next succeeding, which adjournment shall thereupon be entered among the minutes; and if, at such adjourned election, three-fourths (being at least 15) of the qualified members present thereat, shall vote in favour of the candidate, he shall be deemed duly chosen."

Fourth. Amend Chapter IX. Section 3d, by striking out "the election of members."

Fifth. In Chapter VIII. Section 5th, after the words, "he shall give notice in the newspapers of the meetings of the Society, and of the officers and council," insert "and of all elections, whether stated or adjourned."

The pending nominations, and new nomination, No. 241, were read.